

HABITUS

by

Darian Goldin Stahl

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Fine Arts

in

Printmaking

Department of Art and Design
University of Alberta

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Acknowledgements

I would like to first and foremost thank the members of my committee: Sean Caulfield, Liz Ingram, Lianne McTavish, Steven Harris, and Penny Smyth. It was your wonderfully considerate critique and encouragement that made this exhibition such a success. I am a more thoughtful and motivated artist because of you all.

I also want to thank Michelle Lavoie, Brad Necyk, and April Dean for allowing me to be their Teaching Assistant and showing me what it is to be a fantastic instructor. I would also like to extend a sincere thanks to the other faculty and staff members of the Department of Art and Design for their continued assistance and patience. And of course, I thank my peers for sharing their many successes, fewer hardships, and constant friendship.

Through all of your support and guidance, I am now ready to find out what lies next.

Darian Goldin Stahl's Artist Statement

These works concentrate on the complex emotions that accompany a medical diagnosis of chronic illness and the status of our fallible bodies. I am most interested in the psychological impact of the disconnection between what the body is able to perceive and what is revealed by internal medical scans. I aim to restore this fractured sense of identity by joining the skin's surface with medical scans to rehumanize their anonymous and alienating qualities. This arts-based research is a collaborative cycle of informing and reconstructing identity with my sister, Devan Stahl, who is a PhD candidate in Bioethics and has multiple sclerosis.

My image-making process involves appropriating my sister's magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans, a diagnostic technique in which the inner anatomy is translated into black and white images that reveal the bright lesions of MS along the spine and brain. I then join these scans with surface impressions of my own skin, which are created by pressing my body into charcoaled paper. The result of this union is an ethereal, semi-transparent figure. I then situate this figure within the context of domestic spaces or lying in seas of grey to evoke the MRI scans' aura. Next, the translation through photographic printmaking processes, such as silkscreen and stone lithography, breaks down the imagery and adds a scan-like graininess to the prints. The works are ultimately printed into film, which recalls the original MRI substrate.

My surface impressions are created passively, without anticipating the finished image or making any alterations by my hand. Working this way, my body is separated from my mind; likewise, my sister's MRI scans reveal bright spots without regard to her mind's wishes. The joining of our bodily marks creates a figure that is ghostly, pulled apart, or monstrous—qualities that point to the tension she feels with her body. Our traces combine through printmaking to construct this new, third figure who is the amalgamation of our collaborative endeavors to give context to the medicalized body.

I hope that viewers will identify with this figure, and come to find that we all carry anxiety about the functionality of our bodies and, more broadly, our mortality. When audiences see my work, even though they do not know my sister, they *feel* her and are filled with a shared, connecting reflection over the state of our ever-failing bodies.

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Curriculum Vitae

Education	University of Alberta , Edmonton, Alberta, Canada 2012-2015 Master of Fine Arts Printmaking Major GPA: 4.0
2007-2011	Indiana University Bloomington , IN, USA Bachelor of Fine Arts Printmaking Major Art History Minor Hutton Honors College Notation Graduated with Highest Distinction GPA: 3.94
2008	Scuola Internazionale di Grafica , Venice, Italy Summer Study Abroad
Exhibitions	
2015	4th International Health Humanities Exhibition Center for Bioethics and Humanities, Denver, CO Dualism (Dual Exhibition) Selected by Jury, includes Artist Fee Ottawa School of Art, Ontario Canada Habitus (Solo Thesis Exhibition) FAB Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta Canada BIMPE: Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition Federation Gallery and Dundarave Print Workshop, Vancouver, British Columbia; UBC Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia; SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta Canada.
2014	The Book As Art: Expanding the Limits The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur, Georgia SHY RABBIT Print International 5 Biennial Juried by Karen Kunc Pagosa Springs, Colorado

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Performative Ecologies: Thinking Through Research Practices
dc3 Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta Canada

The Boston Printmakers 2013 North American Print Biennial
Boston, Massachusetts

Prismatika: Illusions of the Universe
Steppes Galleries, Edmonton, Alberta

2013 **Insight 2: Engaging the Health and Humanities**
FAB Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta

Encoding/Decoding Identities
SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta

Gravity and Flight: Annual Exhibition in the Print Shop
SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta

Student International Small Print Show
Cairo, Egypt

University of Alberta Graduate and Faculty Exhibition
Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

2012 **Bear in Mind** (Solo)
New Day Meadery and Gallery, Indianapolis, IN

(Ana-)Chronology (Two Artist Exhibition)
Waldron Arts Center, Bloomington IN

2011 **Anatomica Historia** (Solo)
BFA Thesis Exhibition
SoFA Gallery, Bloomington, IN

American Student Exhibition
Shanghai, China

2010 **Area Show**
SoFA Gallery, Bloomington, IN

3D Printmaking
McCalla School of Sculpture, Bloomington, IN

**Teaching
Experience**

2015 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
GTA to Instructor Dean in ART/DESIGN 425/525—Word and

Image in Book Arts, University of Alberta
January-April

2014 **Principle Instructor**
ART 322- Silkscreen, University of Alberta
September-December

Lab Assistant
LA to Instructor Brad Necyk in ART 439/539—Conceptual Gestures in
Drawing and Intermedia, University of Alberta
May-June

Principle Instructor
ART 134 –ART Fundamentals, University of Alberta
January-April

2013 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
GTA to Professor Sean Caulfield in ART 522A—Printmaking
Advanced Studies I, University of Alberta
September-December

Graduate Teaching Assistant
GTA to Instructor April Dean in ART/DESIGN 425/525—Word and
Image in Print, University of Alberta
September-December

Graduate Teaching Assistant
GTA to Professor Liz Ingram in ART 422—Lithography, University of
Alberta
January-April

2012 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
GTA to Instructor Michelle Lavoie in ART 322—Silkscreen, University of
Alberta
September-December

2011 **Teaching Assistant**
TA to Instructor Robert Molyneux in Silkscreen, Honolulu Museum of
Art, Hawaii
June-August

**Professional
Experience**

2015 **Research Assistant**
For Professor Sean Caulfield
January-May

2013- 2015 **Vice President and Exhibition Coordinator**
Art and Design Graduate Student Association, University of Alberta

2012- 2014 **Auction Assistant**
Lando Art Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta

2011-2012 **Paper Maker and Image Designer**
Twisted Limb Paperworks, Bloomington, IN

2011 **Artistic Intern**
Twisted Limb Paperworks, Bloomington, IN

Muralist
On the "Bee Line Trail" Public Space and Park, Bloomington, IN

2008-2010 **Professional Assistantship**
Volunteer Coordinator for Middle Way House: Shelter for Victims of Domestic Abuse and Their Children, Bloomington, Indiana

Refereed Conferences

2015 **4th International Health Humanities Conference**
Panel Lecturer
Center for Bioethics and Humanities, Denver, CO

2015 **Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) 43rd Annual Conference**
"Art, Science, and the Historical Perspective" Panel Lecturer
Knoxville, TN

2014 **Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) 42nd Annual Conference**
"Flying Portfolio: Kite Making" Demonstrations and Projects
Presenter
Open Portfolio
San Francisco, CA

3rd Annual Art and Design Graduate Student Symposium: Performative Ecologies
"Embodied Ecologies" Panel Lecturer
Edmonton, Alberta Canada

2013 **American Society for Bioethics + Humanities (ASBH 15th Annual)**
Paper Session Contributor (Created fine art imagery used in presentation and contributed to concepts)
Atlanta, Georgia

Impact 8
Open Portfolio
Dundee, Scotland

2nd Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion
Collaborative Poster Presenter (Created fine art imagery used in poster and contributed to concepts)
Chicago, Illinois

2012 **Southern Graphics Council (SGC) 39th Annual Conference**
Open Portfolio
St. Louis, MO

2011 **Midwest Consortium Conference**
"Advocates for Community Engagement (ACE): Connecting Campus and Community" Lecturer
University of Nebraska, Omaha

Curation

2015 **Destabilizing Dystopia**
Art and Design Graduate Student Association Exhibition
dc3 Art Projects, Edmonton, Alberta

2014 **Performative Ecologies**
Art and Design Graduate Student Association Exhibition
dc3 Art Projects, Edmonton, Alberta

2010 **Prisoners on Paper: An Art Showing**
In association with the Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project
The Lodge, Bloomington, IN

Press & Media

2015 **Newspaper**
Simpson, Megan Locke. "FCHS grad makes MRIs works of art." *The Kentucky New Era* 20 March 2015: 1 and 10. Print.

Radio

"Darian Goldin Stahl's HABITUS Exhibition ". Muse. CKUA. Edmonton, Alberta. 10 March 2015. Radio.

Newspaper

Simpson, Megan Locke. "FCHS grad makes MRIs works of art." *The Fort Campbell Courier* 13 March 2015: 7 and 8. Print.

Live TV

"Local artist displays her work, inspired by sister with MS." Narr. Kevin O'Connell. *Global TV News*. Global TV. 8 March 2015. Television.

Newspaper

Ostad, Ramin. ""HABITUS art exhibit examines the people inside MRI scans." *The Edmonton Examiner* 4 March 2015: 6. Print.

Newspaper

Holiday, Leah. "University of Alberta student transforms MRI scans into works of art." *Edmonton Metro* 27 Feb. 2015: 1 & 6. Print.

TV Segment

"MRI scans as art" Narr. Carmen Leibel. *CTV News: Your Health Edmonton*. CTV. 26 Feb. 2015. Television

Newspaper

Cook, Alexander. "Habitus exhibition uses MRI scans as a sisterly bond." *The Gateway* [Edmonton] 25 Feb. 2015: 16. Print.

2014

Online Review

Kitteringham, Salena. *Darian Goldin Stahl: HABUTIS*. February 17, 2015. <http://www.curiousarts.ca/darian-goldin-stahl-habitus>.

Online Gallery

Jacquard Products Featured Artist. *Jacquard Galleries: Darian Goldin Stahl*. August 1, 2014. <http://www.jacquardproducts.com/darian-goldin-stahl.html>.

Online Review

Talbot, Jacques. *Performative Ecologies Exhibition*. March 20, 2014. <http://www.curiousarts.ca/performative-ecologies>.

Publications & Collections

2014

Online Review

Barlow, Suzi and Stahl, Darian Goldin. *Southern Graphics Council International Conference 2014*. Edited by Salena Kitteringham. May 9, 2014. <http://www.curiousarts.ca/southern-graphics-council-international-conference-2014> (accessed March 10, 2015).

2013

"Health Science Inquiry 2013"

Cover image and contributor

http://healthscienceinquiry.ca/issues/_2013

“Insight2: Engaging the Health Humanities”

Artist and Contributor

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ISBN: 978-0-9699898-6-8

www.insight2.healthhumanities.ca

2012 **“Exploring Knowledge Translation and Exchange through Arts-based Health Research: Theoretical, Methodological, and Practical Innovations”**
Contributor for future publication

2011 **“Zine”**
Indiana University Art Museum: Artist Book Permanent Collection

2010 **Hutton Honors College Brochure**
Cover Art, Bloomington IN

2009 **“Labyrinth: Indiana University Art Magazine”**
Art Contributor, Bloomington, IN

2008 **“Labyrinth Indiana University Art Magazine”**
Art Contributor, Bloomington, IN

**Portfolio
Exchanges**

2014

FingerPrints

University of Alberta, Edmonton

2013

Gravity and Flight

University of Alberta, Edmonton

2011

Directions

University of Utah and Indiana University Bloomington

**Scholarships
& Grants**

2015

Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) Travel Grant to attend exhibition opening in Ottawa, ON (\$500)

2014

Graduate Student Association Professional Development Award
To attend *Impact 8* international conference in Dundee, Scotland (\$500)

2013

Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) award for high academic merit and artistic excellence (\$6,800)

2012

University of Alberta Recruitment Scholarship for incoming Master's

Students (\$22,000)

2010 **Creative Activities Grant** from the Hutton Honors College, Indiana University Bloomington, to be a Teaching Assistant at the Honolulu Museum for the Arts, Hawaii (\$1,500)

Travel Grant from the Hutton Honors College, Indiana University Bloomington, to give a conference lecture in Omaha, NE (\$500)

2008 **International Experience Program Grant** from the Hutton Honors College, Indiana University Bloomington, to study printmaking in Venice, Italy (\$1,500)

Honors

2011 Highest Honors Notation from Indiana University Bloomington (3.9 GPA or higher)

2007-2011 "Founders Scholar" by Indiana University (GPA of 3.8 or higher)

2010 Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

National Society of Collegiate Scholars Member

2008 Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society

2007 Directly Admitted to Indiana University Hutton Honors College

International Research

2013 **London, England**
Museums and Collections Visited: Tate Britain, Tate Modern, Victoria Albert Museum, National Science Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Saatchi Gallery, White Chapel Gallery

Venice, Italy
55th Venice Biennale: Arsenale and Giardini

2012 **Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy (CSWIP) Conference**
Research in feminist philosophies
Calgary, Alberta Canada

Darian Goldin Stahl

DVD Image List

File Name: Stahl.01
Title: The Scan and the Mirror
Date: 2013
Materials: stone lithography and silkscreen
Dimension: 24 x 28 in

File Name: Stahl.02
Title: Restless
Date: 2014
Materials: digital print
Dimension: 88 x 98 in

File Name: Stahl.03
Title: Doorway
Date: 2013
Materials: silkscreen
Dimension: 40 x 80 in

File Name: Stahl.04
Title: Stairway
Date: 2014
Materials: silkscreen
Dimension: 40 x 80 in

File Name: Stahl.05
Title: Landing
Date: 2014
Materials: silkscreen
Dimension: 40 x 80 in

File Name: Stahl.06
Title: Stairs
Date: 2015
Materials: silkscreen
Dimension: 40 x 80 in

File Name: Stahl.07
Title: Hallway
Date: 40 x 80 in
Materials: silkscreen
Dimension: 40 x 80 in

File Name: Stahl.08
Title: Becoming Scanned
Date: 2014
Materials: stone lithography and silkscreen
Dimension: 30 x 28 in

File Name: Stahl.09
Title: To Lie
Date: 2014
Materials: stone lithography and silkscreen
Dimension: 30 x 28 in

File Name: Stahl.10
Title: Pulled
Date: 2014
Materials: stone lithography and silkscreen
Dimension: 32 x 29 in

File Name: Stahl.11
Title: Radial
Date: 2014
Materials: photo-intaglio, silkscreen, and monoprint
Dimension: 26 x 23 in

File Name: Stahl.12
Title: Central Axis
Date: 2014
Materials: photo-intaglio, silkscreen, and monoprint
Dimension: 26 x 23 in

File Name: Stahl.13
Title: Bilateral
Date: 2014
Materials: photo-intaglio, silkscreen, and monoprint
Dimension: 26 x 22 in

File Name: Stahl.14
Title: The Importance of Dualism (detail)
Date: 2014
Materials: photo-intaglio on waxed silk gampi
Dimension: 9 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.15
Title: The Importance of Dualism (detail)
Date: 2014
Materials: photo-intaglio on waxed silk gampi
Dimension: 9 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.16
Title: Dualism I
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 10 x 11 in

File Name: Stahl.17
Title: Dualism II
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.18
Title: Dualism III
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 10 x 11 in

File Name: Stahl.19
Title: Dualism V
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.20
Title: Dualism VI

Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.21
Title: Dualism VII
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.22
Title: Dualism VIII
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 10 x 11 in

File Name: Stahl.23
Title: Dualism IX
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10 in

File Name: Stahl.24
Title: Dualism X
Date: 2015
Materials: toner transfer on waxed silk
Dimension: 11 x 10

File Name: Stahl.25
Title: Relapse/Remission
Date: 2015
Materials: video projection, broken mason jars, and film
Dimension: N/A

File Name: Stahl.26
Title: Relapse/Remission (detail)
Date: 2015
Materials: video projection, broken mason jars, and film
Dimension: N/A



























The Importance of Dualism

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